



News Release

For immediate release: July 3, 2013

(13-097)

Contacts:	Carolyn Cox, Office of Drinking Water	360-236-3162
	Marqise Allen, Communications Office	360-236-4072
	Justin Hartmann, Columbia Technical LLC	360-281-2650

Cowlitz County: boil water advisory issued for Carrolls customers

Residents asked to limit water use indoors and outdoors

OLYMPIA — The Carrolls Water Association began using *E. coli*-contaminated wells today to avoid a community-wide water outage. To minimize the risk of illness, the community between Kalama and Kelso issued a boil-water advisory to its members.

The five-well water system serves 176 homes, Carrolls Elementary School, and a country store. It has been operating on three wells since April when the operator shut down two contaminated wells. However, the shuttered wells had to be brought back online to avert a possible system-wide water outage due to increased water use in the current heat.

E. coli bacteria can cause severe gastrointestinal illness. To kill the bacteria, customers should boil the tap water they'll use for drinking, brushing teeth, preparing food, making ice and washing dishes. Bring water to a brisk boil for one minute and allow it to cool before use. The boil-water advisory will remain in effect until the water system no longer has to rely on the contaminated wells. The association is also urging customers to limit their total water use.

The community has had several boil-water advisories during the past year because of water outages and bacterial contamination. This month, the state Department of Health brought together several agencies to begin working with Carrolls customers on long-term options for resolving the community's water supply issues. Customers with questions about their water quality may call Columbia Technical LLC at 360-281-2650.

The [Department of Health website](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).

###